

Nebraskans United for Property Tax Reform & Education

PRINCIPLE #1

Adequate and sustainable funding of high quality K-12 education is imperative for the future of Nebraska.

- A well-educated workforce is essential for economic development and a high quality of life.
Educational Attainment as an Economic Driver for States, Regions and Communities; Larry Good and Jeannine La Prad - Corporation for a Skilled Workforce, Michigan State University, 2013.
- **Education** reduces poverty, boosts economic growth and increases income. In sum, **education** is one of the most **important investments** a state can make in its people and its future.
The economic case for education, Ludger Woessmann, University of Munich, Journal of Education Economics, 2016.
- Low levels of state funding for education is at the heart of Nebraska's property tax issues, not school spending.
Property Tax Truth, NSEA Voice Magazine, February, 2017. Property Taxes, State Aid and School Spending, NSEA Research, January, 2017; Data Source: Nebraska Department of Education Annual Finance Reports of School Districts, 1995-96 to 2015-16.

PRINCIPLE #2

Tax reform which reduces the over-reliance on local property taxes is necessary to ensure our tax system is fair to all Nebraska taxpayers.

- Nebraska must reduce property taxes to ensure a fair and balanced tax system.
 - Nebraska ranks 49th in the country in the percentage of K-12 funding that comes from the state.
<https://www2.census.gov/govs/school/14f33pub.pdf> U.S. Census Bureau, Public Education Finance Report, June, 2016.
 - Nebraskans pay the 7th highest effective property tax rate in the nation.
How High Are Property Taxes in Your State? Tax Foundation, July, 2016; Data Source - 2014 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau data.
- To fund the state budget, we need a tax system that is fair and balanced for all Nebraska taxpayers. Nebraska's taxpayers need a significant reduction in property taxes.
 - Nebraska K-12 schools receive 33% of their funding from state sources while the national average is 47%.
 - Nebraska K-12 schools receive 49% of their funding from local property taxes while the national average is 29%.

U.S. Census Bureau, Public Education Finance, 2016 – Based on 2014 Survey Data.

